

pleased that both the President's budget and the Senate Appropriations Committee recognized the importance of maintaining this pristine wilderness in my home state, and included funding to protect it through tight Forest Legacy Program dollars. In fact, this project was recognized as one of the most meritorious in the country by a distinguished panel of experts at the United States Forest Service.

I am hopeful that through increased understanding of the Forest Legacy Program and a more accurate depiction of the Katahdin Ironworks project that my colleagues will appropriately recognize and appreciate my commitment to preserving our wooded lands.

#### "MEXICO AND THE MIGRATION PHENOMENON" DOCUMENT

Mr. DODD. Mr. President, yesterday I spoke about the need to pass a comprehensive immigration reform bill. In the course of those remarks, I described a document signed by all five of Mexico's Presidential candidates in the run-up to this July's Presidential elections in that country, as well as leaders from every major party in Mexico. That document makes clear that leaders on both sides of the border understand that border security is a fundamental necessity. I ask unanimous consent that the document, "Mexico and the Migration Phenomenon," be printed in the RECORD.

There being no objection, the material was ordered to be printed in the RECORD, as follows:

##### MEXICO AND THE MIGRATION PHENOMENON

In Mexico, as in other countries and regions of the world, migration is a complex and difficult phenomenon to approach. The diverse migration processes of exit, entrance, return and transit of migrants are all present in our country.

Given the extent and the characteristics of today's migration phenomenon, which will continue in the immediate future and given the implications that it represents for our country's development, a new vision and a change are necessary in the way Mexican society has approached, thus far, its responsibilities toward the migration phenomenon.

Over the last years, the magnitude reached by Mexican migration and its complex effects in the economic and social life of Mexico and the United States, have made the migration phenomenon increasingly important for the national agendas of both countries, and a priority issue in the bilateral agenda.

From the outset of the Administration, the government of President Fox put forward a proposal to the Mexican public opinion and to the highest authorities in the United States, regarding a comprehensive plan aimed at dealing with the diverse aspects of migration between the two countries. Mexico based its proposal on the principle of shared responsibility, which acknowledges that both countries must do their share in order to obtain the best results from the bilateral management of the migration phenomenon.

In 2001, the governments of both nations intensified the dialogue and set in motion a process of bilateral negotiations with the intent of finding ways to face the multiple challenges and opportunities of the phenomenon; these actions were taken with the objective of establishing a new migration framework between the two countries.

However, the terrorist attacks of September 2001 against the United States, criminal acts which were unmistakably deplorable, altered the bilateral agenda on migration. On the one hand, the link between migration and national security—mainly along the shared border—is now an essential issue of that agenda. On the other hand, the participation in the migration debate of varied political actors—especially legislators of both countries—has increased.

The debate that is currently taking place in the United States, concerning a possible migration reform, represents an opportunity for Mexico and for the bilateral handling of the phenomenon. It also encourages a deep analysis of the consequences that this process can have for our country and its migration policy.

Based on a joint initiative by the Executive Branch and the Senate of Mexico, a group of federal authorities responsible for the management of the migration phenomenon, senators and congressmen, members of the academia, experts in migratory issues, and representatives of civil society organizations, agreed to initiate an effort that seeks to build a national migration policy, founded over shared diagnoses and platforms. Accordingly, the group has held a series of discussions titled Prospects and Design of Platforms for the Construction of a Mexican Migration Policy.

The ideas expressed in this document are the result of those discussions. They intend to bring up to date Mexico's migration position and to offer some specific guidance regarding the process of migration reform in the United States.

##### PRINCIPLES

Based on the discussions held, the participants agreed upon the following set of principles that should guide Mexico's migration policy:

The migration phenomenon should be fully understood by the Mexican State—society and government—because it demands actions and commitments that respond to the prevailing conditions.

The migration phenomenon has international implications that demand from Mexico actions and international commitments—in particular with the neighboring regions and countries—which, in accordance with the spirit of international cooperation, should be guided by the principle of shared responsibility.

Mexico's migration policy acknowledges that as long as a large number of Mexicans do not find in their own country an economic and social environment that facilitates their full development and well-being, and that encourages people to stay in the country, conditions for emigrating abroad will exist.

Mexico must develop and enforce its migration laws and policy with full respect for the human rights of the migrants and their relatives, notwithstanding their nationality and migration status, as well as respecting the refugee and asylum rights. In accordance with the applicable international instruments.

The increased linkage between migration, borders and security on the international level, is a reality present in the relationship with our neighboring countries. Hence, it is necessary to consider those three elements when drawing up migration policies.

Mexico is committed to fighting all forms of human smuggling and related criminal activities, to protecting the integrity and safety of persons, and to deepening the appropriate cooperation with the governments of the neighboring countries.

The migration processes that prevail in Mexico are regionally articulated—in particular with Central America—and therefore

the Mexican migration policy should deepen its regional approach.

##### RECOMMENDATIONS REGARDING THE COMMITMENTS THAT MEXICO SHOULD AGREE ON

Main recommendations considered by the group in order to update Mexico's migration policy:

Based on the new regional and international realities regarding immigration, transmigration and emigration, it is necessary to evaluate and to update the present migration policy of the Mexican State, as well as its legal and normative framework, with a timeline of fifteen to twenty years.

It is necessary to impel the economical and social development that, among other positive effects, will encourage people to stay in Mexico.

If a guest country offers a sufficient number of appropriate visas to cover the biggest possible number of workers and their families, which until now cross the border without documents because of the impossibility of obtaining them. Mexico should be responsible for guaranteeing that each person that decides to leave its territory does so following legal channels.

Based on international cooperation, Mexico must strengthen the combat against criminal organizations specialized in migrant smuggling and in the use of false documents, as well as the policies and the legal and normative framework for the prevention and prosecution of human smuggling, especially women and children, and the protection of the victims of that crime.

It is necessary to promote the return and adequate reincorporation of migrants and their families to national territory.

Mexico's migration policy must be adjusted taking into account the characteristics of our neighboring countries, in order to safeguard the border and to facilitate the legal, safe and orderly flow of people, under the principles of shared responsibility and respect for human rights.

Order and security in Mexico's north and south borders must be fortified, with an emphasis on the development of the border regions.

Reinforce cooperation with the United States and Canada through the Security and Prosperity Partnership for North America, and with the regional bodies and mechanisms for the treatment of the phenomenon, like the Regional Conference on Migration and the Cumbre Iberoamericana.

The review and, if necessary, adjustment of the juridical and institutional framework, in order to adequately respond to the present and the foreseeable conditions of the migration phenomenon; this will require the creation of a specialized inter institutional mechanism of collaboration.

The creation of permanent work mechanisms for the Executive and Legislative Branches, with the participation of academic and civil society representatives that allow the development and fulfillment of Mexico's migration agenda.

##### ELEMENTS RELATED TO A POSSIBLE MIGRATION REFORM IN THE UNITED STATES

Mexico does not promote undocumented migration and is eager to participate in finding solutions that will help us face the migration phenomenon. Accordingly, the group decided to express certain thoughts about what is the Mexico's position in case a migration reform takes place in the United States:

Acknowledging the sovereign right of each country to regulate the entrance of foreigners and the conditions of their stay, it is indispensable to find a solution for the undocumented population that lives in the United States and contributes to the development of the country, so that people can be

fully incorporated into their actual communities, with the same rights and duties.

Support the proposal of a far-reaching guest workers scheme, which should be one of the parts of a larger process that includes the attention of the undocumented Mexicans that live in the United States.

In order for a guest workers program to be viable, Mexico should participate in its design management supervision and evaluation, under the principle of shared responsibility.

A scheme aimed to process the legal temporary flow of persons, will allow Mexico and the United States to better combat criminal organizations specialized in the smuggling of migrants and the use of false documents, and to combat, in general, the violence and the insecurity that prevail in the shared border. Likewise, Mexico would be in a better position to exhort potential migrants to abide by the proper rules and to adopt measures in order to reduce undocumented migration.

Mexico should conclude the studies that are being conducted to know which tasks will help with the implementation of a guest workers program, regarding the proper management of the supply of potential participants, the establishment of supporting, certification mechanisms, and the supervision and evaluation of its development.

Mexico acknowledges that a crucial aspect for the success of a temporary workers program refers to the capacity to guarantee the circular flow of the participants, as well as the development of incentives that encourage migrants to return to our country. Mexico could significantly enhance its tax-preferred housing programs, so that migrants can construct a house in their home communities while they work in the United States.

Other mechanisms that should be developed are the establishment of a bilateral medical insurance system to cover migrants and their relatives, as well as the agreement of totalization of pension benefits, which will allow Mexicans working in the United States to collect their pension benefits in Mexico.

Mexico could also enhance the programs of its Labor and Social Development Ministries, in order to establish social and working conditions that encourage and ease the return and reincorporation of Mexicans into their home communities.

This working group aims to become a permanent body of study, debate and development of public policies for the handling of the migration phenomenon.

#### NOMINATION OF GORDON ENGLAND

Mr. LEVIN. Mr. President, I support the nomination of Gordon England to the position of Deputy Secretary of Defense.

Secretary England has been the Department's problem-solver for the last 5 years. In this brief period of time, he has served as Secretary of the Navy, Deputy Secretary of the Department of Homeland Security, Secretary of the Navy again, and—after being under consideration to serve as Secretary of the Air Force—as Deputy Secretary of Defense. At the request of the Secretary of Defense, he has also taken on such critical jobs as designing the new National Security Personnel System and overseeing the review of the status of DOD detainees at Guantanamo.

Secretary England has always made himself available for hearings, meet-

ings with Members, and discussions with the wide array of others who have interests and concerns about the operations and activities of the Department of Defense. He is a good listener, open to compromise, willing to take on tough problems—characteristics which are always in great demand and short supply at DOD.

The Deputy Secretary of Defense serves in a position of awesome responsibility. He is the alter ego of the Secretary. In this capacity, the Deputy Secretary plays a key role in determining how our country will face critical national security challenges.

At the same time, the Deputy Secretary of Defense has traditionally served as the chief manager of the Defense Department. A wide array of management challenges, including financial management, acquisition management, and human capital issues, cut across functional areas in the Department to such an extent that no official other than the Secretary or the Deputy Secretary has the authority needed to address them.

Fortunately, Secretary England brings the kind of strong management background and commitment to addressing these issues that are needed in the Deputy Secretary position.

For the last several months, Secretary England has served as Deputy Secretary of Defense under a recess appointment by the President. I believe that his service to the Department and the Nation over the last 5 years merit a favorable vote on his nomination by the full Senate.

#### U.S. DECISION ON UNITED NATIONS HUMAN RIGHTS COUNCIL

Mr. FEINGOLD. Mr. President, I wish to express my regret that the administration has decided to decline the opportunity for candidacy on the newly formed U.N. Human Rights Council. I supported the creation of the Human Rights Council because I believe that we need to create a system where human rights abusers are held accountable for the atrocities they commit. It was for that same reason that there was overwhelming international support for the creation of the Human Rights Council.

In choosing not to join the council, the U.S. Government has signaled its intention to address worldwide human rights abuses unilaterally. This decision will damage U.S. credibility when weighing in on the human rights debates of the future and further isolate the United States from multilateral decisions.

Human rights abuses should be addressed through an international strategy to ensure that there are internationally agreed-upon standards to protect all members of society. I am deeply concerned that the administration's decision will undermine our human rights agenda, rather than advance it.

I have repeatedly expressed my concern about the approach to the U.N.

taken by this administration and am further disappointed by this most recent decision. The U.N. is by no means perfect, but a world without a global human rights body would be a more dangerous one for people everywhere and would serve to undermine fundamental U.S. interests.

I urge the administration to reconsider its decision.

#### ADDITIONAL STATEMENTS

##### COMMEMORATING THE 150TH ANNIVERSARY OF EUREKA, CALIFORNIA

• Mrs. FEINSTEIN. I wish to take this opportunity to recognize the city of Eureka as it prepares to celebrate the 150th anniversary of the city's formation.

The city of Eureka has a long history and often parallels California's past. Founded during the time of the gold rush, it became an important port city for northern California's logging and commercial fishing industries because of its proximity to a rich supply of natural resources. Eureka was incorporated on April 18, 1856, and was designated by the State legislature as the county seat for Humboldt County.

On a more personal note, Eureka is an important part of my family's history. My mother's family left St. Petersburg during the Russian Revolution and traveled by cart through Siberia and boarded a boat finally landing in Eureka.

Today, with a population of over 25,000, Eureka is a city on the move and the cultural center of the California's north coast region. It is the destination for many people wanting to explore miles of unspoiled coastline and visit the world-famous coastal redwoods that are within close proximity of the city.

The city's famed historic architecture has been preserved, earning it the designation as a "Victorian Seaport." The historic Eureka Inn is currently undergoing renovations that will make it once again the center of many community events such as the location of the city's Christmas celebrations.

I congratulate the city of Eureka on your special day and extend my regards to all of the citizens who will be celebrating this important milestone in the city's history. You should feel proud of your past, and I wish you the very best in the future. •

#### RECOGNITION OF ASIL

• Mr. KERRY. Mr. President, I would like to take this opportunity to congratulate the American Society of International Law, ASIL, on its 100th anniversary celebrated on January 12, 2006.

The ASIL was founded in 1906 as a nonprofit, nonpartisan association to advance the study of international law and encourage the establishment and